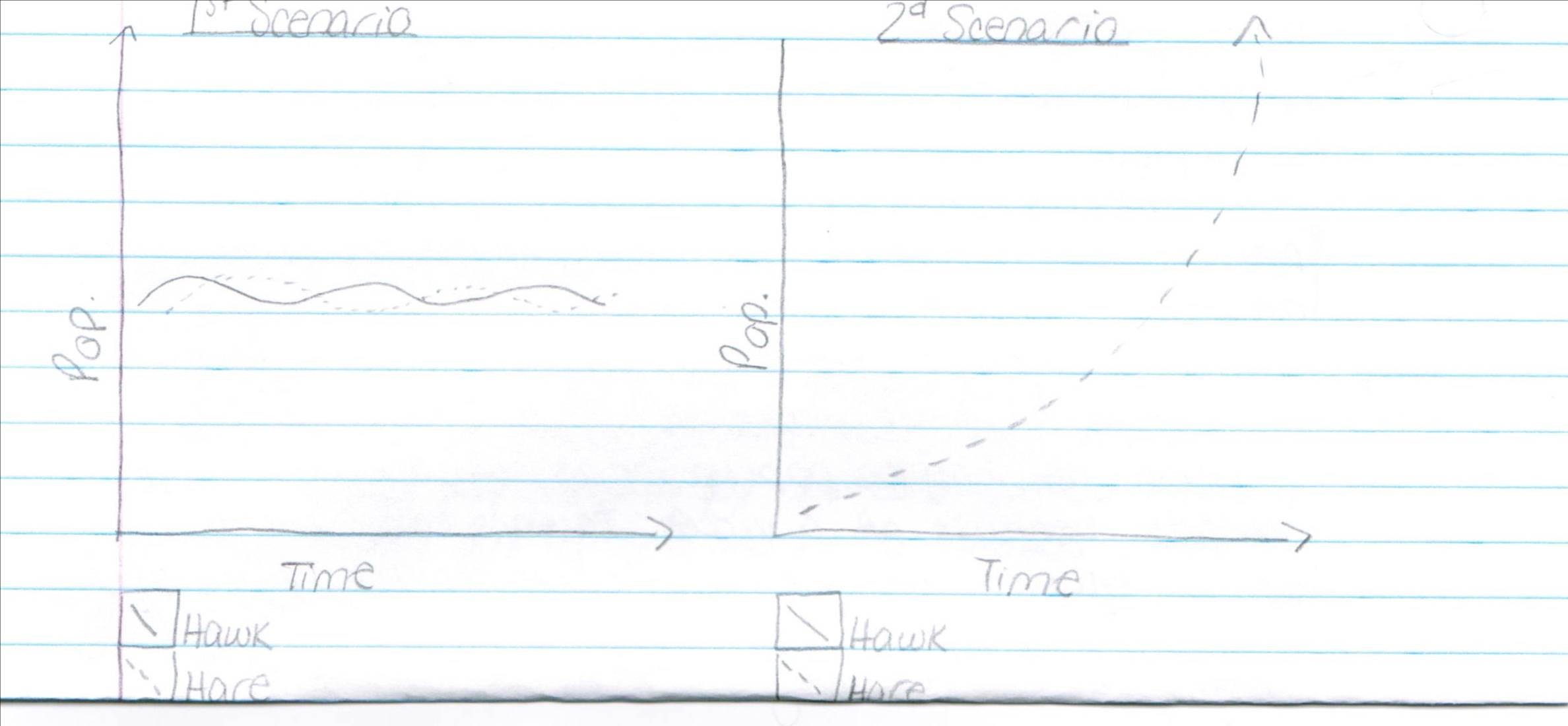
Ecology Essay #8

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For the hares in Utah, hawks are their main predator. In the first scenario, the hawks’ population, or amount of species, remains at its normal level. Because the same amounts of hawks are predators to the hares, the hare’s population would remain at the same level too. In the second scenario, the hawks’ population is completely gone, or extinct, because of a virus. In this case, there are no hawks attacking the hares, so the population of the hares would keep rising. Out of the two scenarios, the one the hares would most likely face extinction in would be the first scenario. In the second, their predator is no longer hunting them, so their species couldn’t die off from being eaten by predators. In the first, there are actually hawks around to attack the hares, so there is a possibility the hawks could finish the species off. The graphs below explain the two scenarios:

1st Scenario: 2nd Scenario